

Dear AGC Members,

First, some distressing news. Our beloved Pat Neri has suffered a fall and surgery. She is working hard in rehab to get home and to see all her friends in our Club. She asks for **lots of cards, mailed to her home at PO Box 2311, Lenox MA 01240**, and insists that she does not want visits, flowers or food.

Forgive this subpar issue of our Thymes newsletter, it is clear that Pat's excellent skills add a lot to what we prepare.

Hope to see many of you at our April meeting.



Time Date & Place: 6pm Tues. Ap. 9 at Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St.

Presenter: Anna Smith, Master Herbalist & Member BBG Herb Associates

Program: Dyeing with Herbs

See attached the lovely thank-you note our Club received from the Ecumenical Food Pantry of Lenox for our December donation. Many thanks to Dianne Romeo for transporting and coordinating this donation to make it easier for all of us to help with food insecurity in our community. **Although the handbook asks us to bring food donations to the April meeting, please bring the donations in May instead to better meet the food pantry's scheduling needs.**

Since our last meeting, members enjoyed a group tour to the Capital Region Flower and Garden Expo in Troy NY. Thanks to Dianne Romeo for planning the tour, Jill Dore for organizing and leading the group, and Jill and Carol Way for driving.

Dianne Romeo, Chris Ferraro and I have begun plans for the pollinator-friendly garden we will create at the Community Garden. At the May meeting, we will have a list of desired plants that all Members can review, with our group indicating which plants they prefer and any plants they may have to donate. We are focusing on hearty, low maintenance plants.

For those who were disappointed that our flower arranging program was missed due to weather, we will reschedule this over the summer in an outside venue. Stay tuned for more details.

Best, Susan

Upcoming Events of Interest

1. Saturday, April 6, 8AM-Noon at Spring into Gardening, sponsored by the Western Massachusetts Master Gardeners Association, speakers include Ron Kujawski, Chris Ferraro, Jodi Cahillane and Shari Petrucci. See [Home - Western Massachusetts Master Gardener Association \(wmmga.org\)](http://wmmga.org) for more information.
2. Sunday, April 7, 4pm at the Lenox Library. Dr. Joan Edwards will discuss "Conserving New England's Amazing Spring Flora." She is the Samuel Fessenden Clarke Professor of Biology at Williams College. She is a botanist with a special focus on ultrafast plant movements and the conservation of flowers and their insect visitors. In this talk, Joan Edwards explores the natural history of spring ephemerals with a focus on floral design, how flowers interact with their spring insect visitors, and how they harness resiliency to deal with the uncertainty of changing climate.
3. Wednesday, April 17, 6 to 8 pm on the lower floor of the Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield's Public Library. Join the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT) for an enlightening evening dedicated to exploring ways to promote sustainable biodiversity through intentional gardening and the cultivation of native plants that support native pollinators and wildlife. Free event, open to the public, for more information see [Bringing Nature Home: Native Plants & Pollinators - Berkshire Environmental Action Team \(thebeatnews.org\)](http://thebeatnews.org)
4. April 19- May 12, Daffodil and Tulip Festival at Naumkeag from April 19- May 12, Thursday-Sunday ~ 10AM-5PM.